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U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Burns District Office
HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West
Hines, Oregon 97738

September 1997



Burns District Planning Update



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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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SEPTEMBER 1997



PLANNING UPDATE

Introduction -

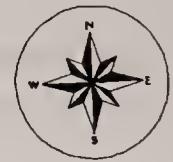
This is the seventh annual Planning Update published by the Burns District. We hope you will give us feedback on its content, layout, and usefulness to you.

Along with all other eastern Oregon Bureau of Land Management (BLM) districts, it is our desire to keep you informed on issues, activities, and opportunities we think are important to our publics. More importantly, we are seeking ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our multiple-use management programs. Accordingly, key staff contacts have been identified for the various activities discussed in this annual publication. For general information or comments regarding the Planning Update, please write to the address shown above.

What to Expect in This Document - - -

Page

Summary of Work - Accomplishments and Plans	3
Three Rivers Rangeland Program Summary Update	20
Andrews Rangeland Program Summary Update.....	30
Environmental Assessment Register	35
Map 1 - Location of Andrews Resource Area Proposed Projects.....	28-29
Map 2 - Location of Three Rivers Resource Area Proposed Projects ...	32-33



OREGON

BURNS

BURNS/HINES
THREE RIVERS
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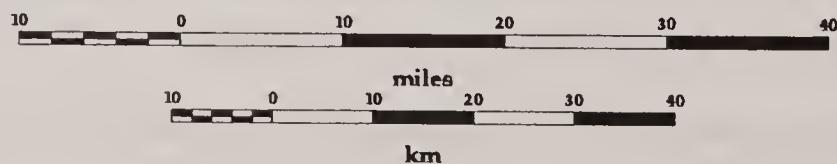
LEGEND

- BLM State Office
- ▼ BLM District Office
- ▽ BLM Resource Area Office
- BLM District Boundary
- BLM Resource Area Boundary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

BURNS DISTRICT

1997



GENERAL LOCATION

SUMMARY OF WORK 1996/1997 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS

This summary includes 1996 accomplishments and 1997 planned work for the following programs:

Botany
Cultural Heritage Program
Fire Management and Fire Suppression
Fish/Wildlife
Forestry
Lands and Realty
Minerals
Recreation
Recreation Maintenance
Weeds
Wilderness
Wild Horses
Burns District Volunteer Program

BOTANY

1996 Accomplishments

Inventories for Special Status plants and plant communities were completed at about 20 locations during the 1996 field season. The special botanical resources in several Research Natural Areas (RNAs) were monitored in order to identify any changes. The botany program continued to support other programs by conducting botanical clearances for Federal projects and actions. Monitoring studies were conducted on Biddle's Lupine (*Lupinus biddlei*).

Andrews Resource Area

In May, the Systematic Botany class from Linfield College of McMinnville, Oregon, spent 2 days in the field identifying and collecting plant species. The class was made up of about 25 young students who stayed at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) compound in Fields, Oregon. In June, a group of six young people with the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) chopped noxious Mediterranean sage and Scotch thistle weeds in several areas near Frenchglen, Oregon. Monitoring studies were conducted on Davis's peppergrass (*Lepidium davisii*), a Bureau Sensitive plant species, in compliance with Burns District goals and management objectives.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Field studies were continued for the Federally listed Endangered Malheur wirelettuce (*Stephanomeria malheurensis*). The population continues to vary widely depending on the amount and timing of precipitation. In 1995, 251 plants survived to set seed. In 1996, only 14 plants survived. A training team from the Bureau's National Training Center in Phoenix visited the site and included a case study of Malheur wirelettuce in a training video concerning management of endangered species. A biological assessment was prepared in response to the filing of a Plan of Operations for mining activity in the vicinity of the South Narrows ACEC where Malheur wirelettuce occurs. No wirelettuce was found in the proposed mine area and field investigations and consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) resulted in a finding of no affect.

Areas in and near the Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC were inventoried for *Lomatium ravenii*. No specimens of this species were found. Monitoring studies were conducted on Columbia Cress (*Rorippa columbiae*) and also in the Foster Flat and Silver Creek Areas of Critical Environmental Concern/ Research Natural Areas (ACEC/RNA).

1997 Plans

Inventories for botanical clearances of Special Status plants will continue at more than 15 new sites where projects are being proposed. Botanical clearances will be conducted on Bureau-authorized projects.

Andrews Resource Area

Monitoring studies will be done for Davis's peppercress (*Lepidium davisii*), Steens Mountain paintbrush (*Castilleja pilosa v. steenensis*), and Biddle's lupine (*Lupinus biddlei*). Monitoring of RNAs will continue in the Long Draw, Mickey Basin, Pueblo Foothills, and Tum Tum ACEC/RNAs.

A tour is proposed with the Portland Garden Club for Steens Mountain in the middle of July, to look at some of the unique plants and plant communities on the mountain. The OYCC is scheduled to be back in June to chop weeds at previously treated sites near Frenchglen.

Three Rivers Resource Area

A management plan will be completed for the Dry Mountain ACEC/RNA. Monitoring studies will be established for *Trifolium leibergii*. *Stephanomeria malheurensis* studies will continue. The existing data will be analyzed through a Challenge Cost-Share project with the Berry Botanic Garden.

Monitoring plots will be read in the Foster Flat ACEC/RNA and District personnel will assist a researcher from Vanderbilt University with studies on *Orobanche fasciculata* at Foster Flat.

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

1996 Accomplishments

Inventories were completed on approximately 10,000 acres in support of projects such as land sales, land exchanges, fences, reservoirs, spring developments, and fire rehabilitation seeding and fencing.

Andrews Resource Area

Washington State University completed a month-long archaeological field school program that included mapping, surface collection, and excavation at a site in Catlow Valley. This research will result in several scholarly journal articles and a Master's thesis and was supported through a cost-share partnership agreement. Historic restoration activities (replacing sill logs, floor support system, and flooring) were completed at the Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District.

Three Rivers Resource Area

A management plan for the Gap Ranch Historic Complex was completed and a contract let for Phase I restoration of historic structures at the site. Inventories of cultural resources were completed on several thousand acres of potential land sale tracts. A number of prehistoric and historic sites were found and evaluated by BLM personnel.

1997 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

Historical restoration activities will occur at the Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District. Activities will include repair and replacement of missing or deteriorated building elements, reconstruction of a pole corral, and preservation treatments such as painting. All actions are outlined in an approved management plan.

Washington State University will continue archaeological investigations on a cost-share basis at a site in Catlow Valley, and consult with the District Archaeologist on future research plans.

Three Rivers Resource Area

A management plan for the 6,500-acre Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC is being developed. The plan will detail management considerations and actions that relate to the maintenance or enhancement of populations of root species economically important to local American Indian tribes and ensure them the opportunity to continue traditional practices of root gathering. In addition, the plan will include a monitoring schedule to chart the status of plant populations over time.

Historical restoration activities will occur at the Gap Ranch Historic Complex. Activities will include repair and replacement of missing or deteriorated building elements. All actions are outlined in an approved management plan.

The University of Nevada, Reno, will begin research on early prehistoric sites with 6 weeks of reconnaissance and site inventory on a cost-share partnership agreement with the Three Rivers Resource Area.

FIRE MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SUPPRESSION

1996 Accomplishments

The year 1996 was the District's second year of being involved with an interagency fire management suppression organization. This effort was accomplished through an interim cooperative agreement with the Ochoco National Forest. The fire suppression organizations from the Snow Mountain Forest Service Ranger District and the Burns District, BLM operated as one organization, reporting to a single Fire Management Officer. The two agencies are evaluating the possibility of making this a permanent agreement.

The Burns Interagency Communications Center (BICC) provided fire dispatching services for the Burns District of the BLM, Snow Mountain Ranger District, Burns Ranger District, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, and Oregon Department of Forestry. The Center handled 146 fires in 1996; 126 fires were lightning caused, while the remaining 20 fires were human-caused. The total acres burned was 46,679. Of these acres, 42,607 were from lightning fires and the remaining 4,072 acres were human-caused. The Center also assisted the national fire fighting effort by processing 19 engine dispatches for a total of 166 days, and 34 overhead dispatches for a total of 329 days.

The Burns BLM, Snow Mountain Ranger District, Burns Ranger District, and the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge have also consolidated their individual fire caches into one Interagency cache. This Interagency fire cache is located at the Burns BLM warehouse facility.

The District received financing to upgrade the poor condition personnel housing facilities at the Frenchglen Guard Station. Three very old, deteriorated trailers were replaced with new modular facilities that meet all current safety and health requirements.

Fire personnel also completed numerous resource improvement projects, when not involved with fire presuppression and suppression efforts. Some of these projects included prescribed burning, building fences, recreation maintenance, facilities repair and improvement, and rehabilitation of areas burned by wildfire.

1997 Plans

The current interim cooperative agreement for fire suppression between the Ochoco National Forest and the Burns BLM will be made a permanent cooperative agreement, and include the Burns Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest. The Interagency Fire Management Officer position will also be filled permanently.

The 1997 fire program is expected to have an organizational strength of 18 engines, a Type 3 helicopter with crew, one 5-person hand crew, six lookouts, logistics operation, and miscellaneous overhead.

FISH/WILDLIFE

1996 Accomplishments

An inventory of the spotted frog, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act, was conducted at 27 sites in the Andrews and Three Rivers Resource Areas, funded as a Challenge Cost-Share project. Maurita Smyth, Environmental Consultant, was contracted to do the work. Spotted frogs were observed at Page Springs, Sawmill Creek, and Dairy Creek. Specimens were collected from Page Springs and sent to McGill University for genetic analysis by David Green.

The Andrews and Three Rivers Resource Areas conducted water quality monitoring on two Catlow Valley redband trout streams, two Catlow tui chub streams, and three inland redband trout streams, including the Donner und Blitzen Wild and Scenic River, which also contains Malheur mottled sculpin. One new location of inland redband trout was found in Clear Creek, a tributary to Stinkingwater Creek. Macroinvertebrates were collected for analysis at most of these sites. Water quality and macroinvertebrate monitoring on the inland redband trout streams is part of a Challenge Cost-Share project with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

The Andrews and Three Rivers Resource Areas worked with Ducks Unlimited on a Challenge Cost-Share project to complete the survey and design of projects to improve the West Chain Lakes and North Catlow Wetlands, as part of the North American Waterfowl Plan.

Low-level aerial flights were flown on 200 miles and 100 miles of stream in the Andrews and Three Rivers Resource Areas, respectively. A video camera was used to produce still images with 100 percent overlap, in color infrared. The imagery is recorded on compact disk (CD) and used as baseline data for future comparison with data to be collected in subsequent years. The data can be computer enhanced to produce color photographs and cover measurements made to aid in monitoring changes in plant density and composition.

Guy Sheeter, Andrews Resource Area Wildlife Biologist, and Dr. Tony Svejcar, Eastern Oregon Agriculture Research Center, conducted 3 years of research in the riparian zone along Rattlesnake Creek near Burns, Oregon. The current herbage growth of grasses and sedges was clipped at different seasons to determine the effect on the ability and extent of these plants to produce new growth. The results of this research has been published in the Society for Range Management's "Rangelands." BLM has continued to support research on the effect of juniper cutting on changes in herbaceous ground cover and the habitat for nongame animals.

Andrews Resource Area

Andrews Resource Area personnel participated in the annual census of the Borax Lake chub as part of the monitoring required in the Recovery Plan for this species. Resource personnel continued to cooperate with the Northern Great Basin Experiment Station and The Nature Conservancy on the changes in nongame use that occur on treated western juniper woodland sites.

The enclosure fence at Shipley Spring was reconstructed in cooperation with ODFW personnel to allow improved access to water for California bighorn sheep during dry years. Monitoring efforts concentrated on riparian, meadow, wetlands, bitterbrush, curlleaf mahogany, aspen, and forest types in the Steens, Trout Creek, and Pueblo Mountains.

Boy Scout Troop 441, of Burns, planted browse seedlings on 30 acres to improve deer winter range on the west slope of Steens Mountain in the spring of 1996. The plant community in the area was deficient in woody species and will benefit from the addition of fourwing saltbush and Wyoming big sagebrush. At Stergen Meadow in the

Pueblo Mountains, raw headcuts in gullies were stabilized. Slopes were cut back to reduce grade and then covered with a biodegradable netting to reduce erosion and stabilize the soil.

Three Rivers Resource Area

As a Challenge Cost-Share project, Kendrick Moholt conducted an inventory of small mammals and songbirds at sites with different densities of Wyoming big sagebrush. Resource Area personnel continued to cooperate with the Northern Great Basin Experiment Station on research to determine livestock and wildlife use of seeded bitterbrush during different seasons of the year.

Engineers from the BLM Vale District, assisted in the survey and design of a proposed Poison Creek Reservoir. The perimeter of the Tackman Juniper Cutting Challenge Cost-Share project was marked in preparation for cutting in fiscal year 1997. Goshawk and woodpecker data were compiled for inclusion in the South Silvies forest health project.

Juniper was cut on 300 acres in four different areas in the Alder Creek Allotment located in the Stinkingwater Mountains. A big game guzzler was constructed at the water-deficient Chandler Butte as a Challenge Cost-Share project with ODFW. Understory thinning of the Rattlesnake Creek bald eagle winter roost was completed and the slash piled for burning in 1997. This project is part of the implementation of the Bald Eagle Winter Roost Habitat Management Plan.

Monitoring efforts concentrated on riparian, meadow, wetlands, bitterbrush, curlleaf mahogany, aspen, and forest types.

1997 Plans

The Burns District is preparing two brochures in partnership with the ODFW. The first is to describe the fish resources of the Donner und Blitzen and the second is to describe the fish resources of the entire District.

The BLM will purchase tanks for transporting fish in partnership with ODFW for the annual planting of fish in several of the District's reservoirs. The District will fence part of the South Fork of the Donner und Blitzen River and construct a fence along Nicoll Creek. These projects, under the Recreation Fishery Resource Conservation Plan, are to protect riparian areas and enhance fish habitat. The Nicoll Creek project is in partnership with the private landowner and the Forest Service.

The BLM and Oregon State University have entered into a research project to assess the impact of prescribed fires on sage grouse, a sensitive species. Graduate student Michelle McDowell is conducting the study. Radio transmitters were placed on 35 birds during the spring of 1997. The birds will be tracked and monitored for the next 2 years to determine habitat preference and use. Research on the ecology of bitterbrush will continue in cooperation with the Northern Great Basin Experiment Station and ODFW.

Andrews Resource Area

The BLM will continue to cooperate with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in an annual census of the Borax Lake chub. Resource Area personnel will be assisting with a science project at the Fields School involving long-term monitoring of local streams.

A Challenge Cost-Share project involving BLM, the ODFW, USFWS, the Oregon Waterfowl and Wetlands Association, Ducks Unlimited, and the Roaring Springs Ranch is planned for the summer of 1997. The project in the North Catlow Wetlands will include a dike created by raising a road through the area and other small water control structures.

One hundred acres of mature juniper trees will be cut the summer of 1997 to improve wildlife habitat on the north end of Steens Mountain. The Tackman Juniper Control Project is a cooperative project between the BLM and ODFW.

Under a Challenge Cost-Share program, Dr. Steve Cross of Southern Oregon State College will be working with the BLM to conduct an inventory of bats at selected sites in the Alvord area.

Monitoring efforts will again focus on riparian, meadow, bitterbrush, aspen, and forest habitats. Low-level aerial video images will again be taken along 75 miles of streams the summer of 1997. Approximately 20 percent of this will occur on streams not previously imaged; 80 percent will be repeat data on streams where baseline data had previously been collected.

Three Rivers Resource Area

A Challenge Cost-Share project involving BLM, ODFW, and Ducks Unlimited will consist of a low dike constructed at West Chain Lake to improve waterfowl and shorebird habitat. Previously cut juniper trees will be placed in a tributary of Krumbo Creek to reduce sediment and improve riparian condition. Trees will help slow down runoff velocity of water and trap sediment to restore deep cutbanks. The project is part of the BLM Recreational Fishery Resources Conservation Plan.

Approximately 390 acres of juniper will be cut in the Stinkingwater Mountains to improve vigor of native shrub species. Also, the old growth enhancement project at Emigrant Creek will be completed.

An inventory of bats, Northern pygmy owls, songbirds, and small mammals will be conducted by numerous cooperators in the Resource Area.

Monitoring efforts will again focus on riparian, meadow, bitterbrush, aspen, and forest habitats. Low-level aerial video images will again be taken along 75 miles of streams the summer of 1997. Approximately 20 percent of this will occur on streams not previously imaged; 80 percent will be repeat data on streams where baseline data had previously been collected. Goshawk and woodpecker inventories will be conducted in potential timber sale areas.

FORESTRY

1996 Accomplishments

The forestry program is primarily confined to the Three Rivers Resource Area, except for minor amounts of special forest products. Twenty acres of forested land burned in the 1994 Jordan Springs Fire were reforested. The 53,000-board-foot Loco Wind Salvage Sale was conducted to recover trees killed by windthrow and a small bark beetle infestation. The 275,000-board-foot South Silvies Rescission Bill salvage sale was also conducted. An 18-acre noncommercial thinning project was conducted in the Rattlesnake Eagle Roost Management Area. Cut trees were piled by hand. The objectives were to improve the vigor of suitable roost trees, to create replacement roost trees, and to lessen risk of losing roost trees to wildfire. Demand for special forest products remained stable with the exception of continued strong demand for harvest of juniper boughs.

1997 Plans

Forest health treatments continue to be the District's priority for forest ecosystem management. A noncommercial thinning project will be conducted in the Emigrant Creek Designated Old Growth stand. Cut trees will be piled by hand and burned. The purpose of this treatment is to improve the vigor of large diameter trees, to enhance creation of replacement large trees, and to lower the susceptibility of remaining trees to bark beetle attack or incidence of intense wildfire. Thirty acres of forest will be underburned in the Beaverdam Creek area. An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be completed soon for the Cow Creek Forest Health Project and work will begin this fall. Treatments proposed include the selective harvest of about 400,000 board feet of timber, precommercial thinning of 55 acres, underburn 189 acres, and the removal of invaded ponderosa pine from 13 acres of aspen followed by a fence to protect aspen reproduction from grazing. The authorized officer may subsequently change, alter, or amend any planned timber sales. Special forest products including juniper boughs, posts, and firewood will continue to be provided as a service to the public.

LANDS AND REALTY

1996 Accomplishments

All realty-related land use activities were monitored to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the appropriate permits.

Andrews Resource Area

Five rights-of-way and road use agreements were processed in fiscal year 1996. One of these was a short-term authorization for hauling private timber across existing roads on public land.

A 240-acre parcel along Fence Creek, on Steens Mountain north of the North Loop Road, was acquired by the BLM. The area contains high recreation and wildlife values, and a remnant stand of grand fir. Part of the acquired land falls within a proposed ACEC for grand fir.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Nine rights-of-way and road use agreements were processed in fiscal year 1996. Most of these were short-term authorizations for hauling private timber across existing roads on public land. A permit was also issued to authorize agricultural use of public land pending its eventual sale.

The BLM is continuing to assist Harney County and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in their efforts to manage solid waste disposal in the County. The Three Rivers Resource Area has a representative who serves on the Harney County Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The County and BLM have reinitiated their efforts to complete a land exchange that would provide the County with long-term ownership of five solid waste disposal sites currently located on public land under lease to Harney County.

The Petersen, Ponderosa, and Root land exchanges were completed in 1996 and early 1997. In addition to the land acquired by the BLM through these exchanges, two access easements were also acquired. An additional access easement was negotiated and purchased.

In 1996, approximately 690 acres of isolated tracts of public land were offered for sale; 450 acres were ultimately sold. Resource inventories and other work were completed to prepare an additional 3,700 acres to be offered in 1997 and 1998.

1997 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

Right-of-way and land use permit applications will continue to be processed as they are received and unauthorized use dealt with as it is discovered. It is anticipated that right-of-way activity will remain stable.

Negotiations will continue with two private landowners interested in consolidating their private land on Steens Mountain. Both land exchanges would include obtaining easements for access to public land. Appraisals and specific land parcels should be identified by fall 1997.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Right-of-way and land use permit applications will continue to be processed as they are received and unauthorized use dealt with as it is discovered. It is anticipated that right-of-way activity will remain stable. Road use agreements for private log hauling are expected to decrease somewhat due to lower log prices. Rights-of-way and other land uses will be monitored to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permits.

It is planned to reestablish negotiations with the Bureau of Reclamation to complete the review of their existing land withdrawal at Warm Springs Reservoir. This review may ultimately result in the return to BLM jurisdiction of those lands not necessary for operation of the reservoir.

The Resource Area will continue assisting Harney County and DEQ in developing strategies for solid waste management in rural areas of the County. Work will continue toward completion of the Harney County Land Exchange, which will transfer ownership of the rural solid waste disposal sites to the County.

Approximately 1,600 acres of public land will be offered for sale in 1997. Appraisal and mineral report field work will begin for 1998 sales, while cultural and botanical inventories will take place during the 1997 field season for 1999 sale offerings.

MINERALS

1996 Accomplishments

As of March 1997, there were 469 active mining claims on the Burns District. Claimstaking is usually active in late spring, and some claimants use BLM's compilation of claim locations to help identify unclaimed areas. Compliance inspections were conducted for all mineral activities.

Andrews Resource Area

During the fall of 1996, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation plugged and abandoned their three geothermal exploration wells in the Alvord Valley, and reclaimed the three drill pads. The company had earlier abandoned efforts to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed geothermal power plant near Fields, Oregon, due

to their being unable to obtain a contract to sell the electricity to a utility company. Three leases near Borax Lake and three leases near Alvord Hot Springs were allowed to lapse. No geothermal leases presently exist in the Resource Area.

Four permits were issued to Harney County residents for purchase of sand and gravel and decorative stone. Mineral reports were prepared for two proposed land exchanges.

Three Rivers Resource Area

A potential rock source has been identified for use in reconstructing the dam at Warm Springs Reservoir and for improving roads around the reservoir. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) will test the rock source to determine if it is of suitable quality.

Effective August 1, Geo-Culture, Inc., was awarded a new geothermal lease near Crane, Oregon. The company had held the land under a previous lease since October 1985, but it had subsequently lapsed. The land is adjacent to private land proposed for construction of a greenhouse. They currently have no plans for development on public land.

A Plan of Operations for a proposed zeolite mine was received from American Absorbents Natural Products (AANP) on November 15, 1996. The proposed mine would be located approximately 30 miles south of Burns and 3 miles east of Harney Lake. AANP used input from Burns District specialists to prepare an EA during late 1996 and early 1997. The EA was sent to the public for review and comment. Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc., continues to remove diatomite from their mine on the Harney/Malheur County line. Approximately 35 percent of their production is from Federal land.

Eight permits were issued to Harney County residents for purchase of sand and gravel and decorative stone. Sales continued to Harney Rock and Paving for mineral materials on their private land where the Federal government owns the mineral estate. Three free-use permits were issued to public agencies for mineral materials on public land.

In 1996, one claimant provided a notice to the BLM for surface disturbance on their thunderegg claim. A mineral report was prepared for one proposed land exchange.

1997 Plans

During the summer of 1997, a temporary employee will inventory abandoned mines and prospects in three priority areas: the east side of the Steens and Pueblo Mountains, the part of Glass Buttes that is in the Burns District, and the Drinkwater Pass area. The inventory will be used to prioritize and plan reclamation of these sites over the years, as funding allows. Sales and free-use permits will be provided for mineral materials. The new use and occupancy and bonding regulations for mining and prospecting will be administered, and compliance inspections of mineral activities will be conducted.

Andrews Resource Area

Much of the District's mineral emphasis will be on writing and preparing maps for the Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan (SEORMP). BLM will continue to coordinate and participate in long-term monitoring and baseline research at Borax Lake.

Three Rivers Resource Area

The EA for the proposed zeolite mine will be completed, followed by the necessary permits to begin mining. BLM personnel, in cooperation with the USBR and the Harney County Road Department, will identify additional rock sources, as needed, for use on roads and possible dam reconstruction at Warm Springs Reservoir. The dam reconstruction would be done under the USBR safety of dams program on a dam built by a local irrigation district in 1919.

RECREATION

1996 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

Renovation work on the Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District began June 1966 by replacing rotten logs on two sides of the main house. This was accomplished by jacking up the log structure, removing rotted logs, pouring footings, and putting new logs in place. A new subfloor and floor were also constructed in the living room.

Nine interpretive signs were installed at various overlooks along the Steens Mountain Loop Road. Graveling of the Steens Mountain Loop Road continued. Construction of the new South Steens Campground was completed, including cleanup of construction debris and the planting of black cottonwood trees for beautification. The boat dock at Fish Lake was extended to make it bigger and accessible to the physically impaired.

Three Rivers Resource Area

The camping area at Chickahominy Recreation Site was upgraded with the addition of 18 campsites and a Romtec toilet. Construction of facilities for the Diamond Loop Back Country Byway continued with Harney County completing the south end pull-out. Facilities included a fence around the perimeter, a graveled parking area, and a kiosk with interpretive panels. The back country byway was dedicated in September.

The Recreation Management Plan and Recreation Site Development Plan for the Chickahominy Recreation area were approved. These plans will provide direction for future recreation facilities in cooperation with ODFW and Harney County.

A feasibility study was completed to determine the viability of establishing the Chickahominy Recreation area as a State park. The study was completed in cooperation with Harney County after the County made a request in 1994 to the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation to secure funding. The District cooperated in writing a grant application and developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a contract to produce a feasibility study.

A historic sign was designed, installed, and dedicated at the Fort Harney pull-out on U.S. Highway 20 east of Burns. The sign commemorates the routes of the first wagon trains to pass through this country on their way to western Oregon. The project was a cooperative effort with the Oregon Travel Council, Harney County Historical Society, and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

1997 Plans

The District is a cooperating member of a steering committee formed to develop a visitor center in Burns. The center would be the hub for orienting visitors to various natural, historical, and cultural features available in Harney County and southeastern Oregon. Other partners in this endeavor are the Harney County Court, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, cities of Burns and Hines, U.S. Forest Service, USFWS, the Burns Paiute Tribe, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). A Master Plan will be completed under contract with the next step to obtain the private land at the proposed site and secure funding for construction of the center.

Andrews Resource Area

Gravel will be placed on the portion of the Steens Mountain Loop Road that has not had the surface upgraded. Direction signs will continue to be upgraded. Restoration work will continue at the Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District with work being completed on the main house this summer. Existing corrals around the barn, in a deteriorated condition, will be reconstructed.

A photovoltaic system will be installed on two wells at the South Steens Campground, to provide electricity for water pumps for drinking water. The wells are too deep for the existing hand pumps to provide adequate water. A 20-foot by 20-foot gabled picnic shelter over a concrete pad will be constructed for day use at the Page Springs Campground. A new campsite will be constructed at the Fish Lake Campground for the designated campground host. This will provide the host with a good view of all traffic going into and leaving the campground. Firewood will no longer be furnished at campgrounds on Steens Mountain; however, firewood is available from private vendors in and near Frenchglen.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Ten campsites will be added to the Chickahominy Recreation Site and a well will be drilled to provide potable water for the additional sites. The fee collection site on the access road will be moved closer to the camping area and a camping/visitor information bulletin board will be installed at the new collection site.

Concrete walkways will be constructed at two toilets to provide better access for the physically impaired and solar lights will be installed. A boat ramp, parking area, and toilet facility will be developed at Warm Springs Reservoir. The project is a cooperative effort involving the USBR, Oregon State Marine Board, and Harney County. Funding for the project will be provided by the USBR and the State Marine Board. The BLM will maintain the facility and Harney County will maintain access to the site.

A Recreation Management Plan will be written for the Gap Ranch to provide direction for protecting an old Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp, including development of interpretive signs and a visitor parking area. A historic sign will be designed for a pull-out south of Burns, near the Narrows on State Highway 205. This will be a cooperative effort of the Oregon Travel Council, Harney County Historical Society, and the Oregon Department of Transportation. It will note the historic and continued subsistence use of the area around Malheur and Harney Lakes by the local band of Paiute Indians.

An information sign will be designed and installed at the Diamond Hotel to provide direction for visitors and note points of interest in Diamond Valley and the surrounding locale. Efforts will continue to provide visitor information and improve interpretation of resource values at the Diamond Craters Outstanding Natural Area. Development of an interpretive kiosk is planned as well as the installation of interpretive signs at two main points of interest.

RECREATION MAINTENANCE

1996 Accomplishments

All recreation sites have been maintained at a high level of professionalism for health, safety, and visitor enjoyment. Sites include Page Springs, Fish Lake, Jackman Park, South Steens, and Chickahominy Campgrounds and the Mann Lake recreation area. The District continues to receive positive comments on the clean and well-maintained facilities.

1997 Plans

A recreational fishery conservation project will be started to provide better access, parking and toilet facilities at Moon Reservoir in the Three Rivers Resource Area. This is a cooperative project with the local National Guard Engineering Unit.

WEEDS

1996 Accomplishments

A new District Weed Management Plan has been drafted, outlining goals and objectives for the Burns District and how they will be accomplished. A Weed Prevention Schedule has been developed. The District participated, with the Harney County Weed Board, in several high profile weed education/awareness activities including: a) weed identification training; b) educational displays; c) newspaper articles; d) six town hall meetings; and e) a perennial pepperweed symposium.

During 1996, the Burns District weed control program focused primarily on high traffic areas. Approximately 609 acres were treated with herbicides and weeds were physically removed on 278 acres. Treatment areas included recreational areas, State, County, and BLM road rights-of-way (ROW) and other, miscellaneous infested areas. The District purchased a 25-gallon spray unit with boom to mount on a 4-wheeler for direct application by certified BLM staff. A herbicide application contract was issued, and a payment was made to Harney County, in coordination with the ODOT, for the application of herbicide on County and State highway ROWs.

Twenty-eight new weed sites were identified through field inventories, 75 percent of known weed sites were monitored, and the District helped to develop Statewide standards for portraying weeds in Geographic Information System (GIS) data.

Monitoring continued on medusahead research plots. A contract was issued to inventory for medusahead infestations and funding was received for a Pilot Project to develop, formalize, and implement a comprehensive, multi-partner strategy for control of medusahead and rehabilitation of medusahead-infested sites on public land in the District.

1997 Plans

During FY97, the District Weed Management Plan and Weed Prevention Schedule should be completed. A weed identification workshop will be conducted, newspaper articles will continue to be published to raise public

awareness of the weed problem in Harney County, the District will continue to participate in meetings as a member of the Perennial Pepperweed Task Force and the Harney County Weed Board, and provide displays at public gatherings.

The District plans to chemically treat approximately 900 acres, including County, State, and BLM road ROWs, recreation sites, and miscellaneous other infestations. A new herbicide spraying contract will be issued, the contract with the County will be improved, and a more effective control of weeds will be a priority through continued collaboration with the County, ODOT, and the Oregon State Department of Agriculture Weed Program.

The District plans to inventory 153 materials sites for noxious weed infestation, monitor 75 percent or more of known weed infestations, and inventory and map medusahead in the vicinity of the Warm Springs Reservoir.

WILDERNESS

1996 Accomplishments

The destiny of each Wilderness Study Area (WSA) administered by the BLM rests with Congress. The BLM has accomplished all Congressionally-mandated reporting requirements established in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Until Congress acts, WSAs under BLM jurisdiction will be managed according to Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review.

Interim management continued on each of the District's 23 WSAs. Activities include physically checking each WSA a minimum of once each month, when accessible, to ensure wilderness values are not impaired. Both ground and aerial surveillance methods were utilized to perform this mandatory monitoring. Interim management surveillance plans are updated annually to ensure coverage is fully achieved. Monitoring and compliance field checks were conducted throughout the field season in all WSAs. Proposed projects in WSAs were evaluated to determine consistency with BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review.

Actions were initiated to protect Mickey Hot Springs from Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use and grazing by livestock. Sites disturbed by OHV use and other illegal surface-disturbing activities were rehabilitated within the East Alvord (2-73A) WSA.

Volunteers in the Wilderness Program made contributions to help protect and enhance wilderness values. Approximately 50 hours were contributed by volunteers to complete reclamation of a way in the Pueblo Mountain (2-81) WSA by placing waterbars on a steep section to curtail erosion.

1997 Plans

Interim management of each of the District's WSAs will continue, including field surveillance and compliance activities. Proposed projects in WSAs will be evaluated to determine consistency with BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review. Proposed activities include:

Finish rehabilitating two short dead-end vehicle routes in the Pueblo Mountain WSA.

Continue to remove old, unneeded fences in WSAs. Potential fence removal projects exist in the Rincon (2-82), Little Blitzen River (2-86F), South Fork of the Donner und Blitzen River (2-85G), and High Steens (2-85F) WSAs.

Volunteers will again be asked to help complete work started at Mickey Hot Springs and reclaim old mine sites in the Pueblo Mountains.

Trash found in the High Steens WSA will be hauled out by helicopter. Vehicles will be used to haul trash from the West Peak (2-72J) and Alvord Desert (2-74) WSAs to the nearest dump facility.

Public outreach efforts will be expanded by focusing on better identification of WSA boundaries and increased education of visitors in "Leave No Trace" camping and hiking techniques.

Efforts to place signs along WSA boundaries will continue.

A slide presentation explaining and promoting "Leave No Trace" camping techniques is scheduled to be developed. Articles promoting the "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" concepts will be submitted to various organizations who produce newsletters.

WILD HORSES

1996 Accomplishments

Oregon's Adopt-A-Horse Program continues to be very popular with the public. A total of 458 horses were adopted in Oregon and Washington in 1996. The Burns District, in cooperation with the Spokane and Eugene Districts, held satellite adoptions in Odessa, Washington and Eugene, Oregon. Several other adoption events were held at the Burns District Wild Horse Corrals.

Most of the animals were adopted during formal events, where potential adopters participated in lotteries that established the order in which they would be allowed to choose a horse. A high demand exists for wild horses in Oregon.

During 1996, a total of 266 horses were gathered from public land in the Burns District. Gathering in other Oregon Districts totaled 118 horses. Horses above the appropriate management level were gathered from the Riddle Mountain, Kiger, Paisley, and Coyote Lake Herd Management Areas (HMAs). Additionally, horses that had strayed outside of several HMAs were gathered from the Egli Ridge, Browns Valley, Skull Creek, South Catlow, and Straw Hat Pass areas.

1997 Plans

Monitoring data indicated a need to gather the Burns District's Warm Springs and Alvord-Tule HMAs. A total of 167 horses were gathered from the Warm Springs HMA in November, 1996. Alvord-Tule is scheduled to have approximately 100 horses removed this fall.

An adoption for 86 Kiger Mustangs was held in October 1996. Over 1,500 adopters applied to adopt the very popular Kigers. Because of the high demand, a lottery was held before the adoption to determine order of selection.

Two other adoptions have been held at the Burns Wild Horse Corrals to adopt horses that have been gathered from Burns District, Malheur National Forest Service land, and from HMAs in other BLM Districts.

Burns District assisted the Spokane and Medford Districts with satellite adoptions in Medford, Oregon and Odessa, Washington, where 64 horses were adopted. A total of approximately 400 horses will be placed with adopters in Oregon and Washington this year.

Wild Horse Program Controversy

Early in 1997, the national news media aired several Associated Press stories that alleged that most of BLM's adopted horses are sold to slaughterhouses shortly after adoption. In response to these allegations, BLM sent teams of law enforcement agents and wild horse experts to eight slaughterhouses in the United States and one in Canada. With the cooperation and assistance of the meat processing plant owners and managers, these teams reviewed data for the last 2 years.

They found that about 266,000 horses were slaughtered during 1995 and 1996, and that less than one-quarter of one percent, about 350 per year were at any time wild. In contrast, the wild horse adoption program adopts about 8,000 horses out each year to qualified adopters.

The Associated Press reports also alleged that BLM employees were "...among those profiting from the slaughter." Slaughterhouse records reviewed by BLM investigators also contradict this allegation. They revealed that only one BLM employee in the last 2 years has sold a horse that ultimately went to slaughter. In that particular case, there was no evidence of profiteering or illegal or unethical behavior on the part of the employee. The horse in question had been titled, became private property, and was sold to a second owner.

After adoption, wild horses and burros continue to be Federal property. Adopters become eligible to receive title to the animals after providing proper care for 1-year. In Oregon and Washington, there are more adopters than there are available horses. Oregon's wild horses have a reputation as good animals and are known for their quality. These animals are very trainable and are used on ranches, for trail riding, and in horse show competitions. A number of registries are maintained for wild horses and burros.

Wild Horse Program Changes

Several changes to the Wild Horse and Burro regulations were implemented on March 7, 1997. The base adoption fee for burros was raised from \$75 to \$125. The base fee for horses was set at \$125 for each animal. Previously, the fee for mare/foal pairs was \$125 rather than the current fee of \$250 for the pair.

The new regulations also allow BLM to use competitive bidding to establish adoption fees. Competitive bidding is not required, but may be used at the discretion of the authorized officer.

Locally, in Oregon and Washington, several changes have also been implemented regarding application to adopt procedures and facility requirements. Photographs of the adopter's facilities are now required to be submitted with applications to adopt wild horses and burros. The requirements for shelter facilities in Oregon and Washington are defined as follows:

West of the Cascades:

A structure with a roof and two sides (open sides away from the prevailing wind and accessible from the required corral).

East of the Cascades:

A wind break structure (no roof) that provides protection from the prevailing wind and is attached to or immediately beside the required corral.

BLM will also be increasing its compliance program. More adopted animals and adopter's facilities will be checked. The wild horse and burro regulations that require humane and proper care of adopted animals will be strictly enforced.

THE BURNS DISTRICT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

During 1996, volunteers donated 4,086 hours of service to the BLM, Burns District, which were valued at approximately \$67,000. These projects covered a diversity of interests ranging from rehabilitation of hiking trails to assisting with administrative duties in the Burns District Office. Six young people with the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps worked in the District for 6 weeks, contributing 1,440 hours, and completing 10 projects. They eradicated weeds on 170 acres, repaired and constructed several exclosure fences, cleaned up trash on several areas, as well as other projects. Two people contributed approximately 600 hours to process and organize archaeological data. Twenty-six people (university students and volunteer archaeologists) contributed 134 hours in assessing an archaeological site and recording data. These efforts saved the public taxpayer \$6,700.

Many volunteer opportunities are available each year in the Burns District. For more information on the kinds of projects, please contact Patti Wilson at (541) 573-4424.

THREE RIVERS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN ERRATA

Management actions outlined in the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP) continue to be implemented. The following minor changes are made to clarify the document.

On Page 2-11: Table 2.1, Page 2-92: Table 2, 15, and Appendix, Page 17: Appendix 6, Poison Creek should be listed as being in Clemens (#7050) Allotment rather than Lone Pine (#7043).

On Page 2-43 the forage allocation to wild horses is discussed in WHB 1.1. This allocation was brought forward through the planning process from the Draft RMP/DEIS. Table 3.6 on Page 3-20 in the draft was inadvertently left out of the Final RMP. The table omitted follows:

Wild Horse Herd Numbers

Herd Management Area	Minimum Herd Size	Maximum Herd Size	Allotted AUMs
Kiger	51	82	984
Palomino Buttes	32	64	768
Stinkingwater	40	80	960
Riddle Mountain	33	56	672
Warm Springs*	111	202	2,424
Total	267	484	5,808

* Includes 15-34 burros.

SOUTHEASTERN OREGON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (ANDREWS RESOURCE AREA)

The staff of the Andrews Resource Area are continuing their efforts to develop the Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan (SEORMP). They are working in conjunction with the Malheur and Jordan Resource Areas of the Vale District to prepare an RMP which covers 6.3 million acres of public land in the three Resource Areas. The team is presently analyzing the impacts associated with five proposed alternative management strategies. They hope to have a Draft RMP/EIS ready to distribute to the public for review late this fall.

THREE RIVERS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives of the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP).

Interested Publics

Following issuance of this Range Program Summary (RPS) Update, there will be a 30-day comment period for the public to request interested public status. If you wish to be provided an opportunity to be involved in the decision making process for the management of livestock grazing on specific grazing allotments, contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Manager in writing by October 7, 1997. You must advise which specific allotment or allotment(s) you are interested in or submit written comments regarding activities on a specific allotment.

During FY97, the monitoring data will be analyzed, interpreted, and evaluated to document progress of management to meet resource objectives for the following allotments: 5205-Venator, 5502-Rock Creek, 5523-Tub Springs-Hart, 5524-Dawson Butte, 5571-Lamb Ranch, 5576-Lower Pine, 7006-Rimrock Lake.

Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) are to be developed or revised for the following allotments: 5214-Hamilton, 5511-Moffet Table, 5528-Cooler, 5565-Upton Mountain, 7002-West Warm Springs, 7006-Rimrock Lake, 7016-Juniper Ridge.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
4098	East Creek-Pine Hill	M	A spring was rebuilt in this allotment.
4143	Silvies	M	A land exchange was completed with the Ponderosa Ranch in which the BLM traded 3,641 acres and acquired 3,552 acres. This exchange consolidated BLM holdings with riparian values in this allotment.

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

5005	Wither's FFR	C	This allotment was eliminated due to a land sale. The allotment had contained 160 acres which are now private, and the 22-AUM permit was canceled.
5105	Camp Harney	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the current grazing system has met resource objectives and the same system should continue. The resource objectives need to be rewritten to reflect resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, erosion, big game forage allocations, riparian habitat, and Special Status species.
5202	Hunter	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate if present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the current grazing system, as outlined in the allotment management evaluation, had not been sufficiently tested due to numerous years of nonuse, but that there is not enough late season water for the current system to work and the system should be modified. The resource objectives need to be rewritten to reflect resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include big game habitat and forage allocations.
5302	Big Bird	M	In August 1996, a wildfire burned approximately 2,560 acres in this allotment. The burned area will be allowed to revegetate naturally.
5303	Dry Lake	M	As a result of a court decision in response to a grazing appeal, 4,322 acres were split off of this allotment to form a new allotment, Barnes Well, #5330.
			In August 1996, a wildfire burned approximately 32,450 acres. Approximately 3,150 acres were drill seeded with a mixture of native grasses, forbs, shrubs, and crested wheatgrass. Additionally, 300 acres were aerially seeded with Wyoming big sagebrush. Three miles of protective fence were constructed. The seeded areas will be rested for 2 years to allow establishment of the seeded species.
5305	Crow's Nest	M	In August 1996, a wildfire burned approximately 2,900 acres. The burned area will be allowed to revegetate naturally.
5306	Rocky Ford	M	In August 1996, a wildfire burned approximately 4,450 acres. The area will be allowed to revegetate naturally.
5310	Riddle Mountain	I	A wildfire burned 250 acres during the summer of 1996. The area will be allowed to revegetate naturally.

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

5311	Burnt Flat	I	A wildfire burned approximately 350 acres during the summer of 1996. The fire was at the eastern edge of the allotment and will be allowed to revegetate naturally. Wild horses were gathered from this allotment in FY96. A total of 44 horses were removed from the range.
5316	Virginia Valley	M	The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. There are no major conflicts or concerns identified, however, there are constraints to vegetation conversions due to big game winter range identified in the RMP. The objective for the AMP is to maintain the stable trend on all areas in the allotment. A grazing system has been designed which will meet this objective. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
5330	Barnes Well	M	This allotment was created from the Dry Lake Allotment (#5303) in response to a court decision in response to a grazing appeal. There are 4,322 acres in the allotment.
5331	Smyth-Kiger	I	Two wildfires totaling approximately 4,700 acres burned in this allotment during the summer of 1996. The pastures in which the fires occurred will be rested for 2 years to allow natural revegetation of the burned area. A wild horse gather in FY96 removed 51 horses from this allotment.
5505	Little Muddy Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the current management is meeting the objectives for uplands but not for riparian areas. An AMP was developed which combined management of this allotment with the Schoolhouse Allotment (#5575). The AMP incorporates the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addresses the conflict and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include big game forage allocations, water quality, Special Status species, and big game habitat. The objectives are to improve the riparian condition of 1.5 miles of Little Muddy Creek and maintain the late seral stage in the mountain big sagebrush/Idaho fescue and bluebunch wheatgrass sites. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

5506	Muddy Creek	M	<p>The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, big game forage allocations, and Special Status species. The objectives are to show an upward trend on key riparian vegetation and to show a stable trend in bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, Thurber needlegrass, and basin wildrye. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified.</p> <p>A 3.5-mile pasture fence was constructed to make a riparian pasture.</p>
5508	Baker Knowles	M	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the grazing use has not been what was described in the AMP, but that the treatments used have met the resource objectives. The evaluation recommends a modification of the grazing system. The objectives need to be rewritten to reflect resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include big game forage allocations and Special Status species.</p>
5509	Williams' Dripp Spring	M	<p>A spring was developed in this allotment.</p>
5516	Birch Creek	M	<p>The AMP was revised to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include big game habitat condition and range condition. The objective is to maintain the fair ecological condition of the mountain big sagebrush/Idaho fescue and juniper/mountain big sagebrush/Idaho fescue sites. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p>
5528	Cooler	M	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the success of management in meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that forage demand and forage production are in balance and current management has met the resource objectives. The evaluation recommends modifications to the grazing system to better meet the resource objectives and rewriting the objectives to include the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP.</p>

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

5531

Stinkingwater

I

The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, Special Status species, big game-habitat condition, ACEC, wild horses, and riparian or aquatic habitat. The objectives are to: cause an upward trend in the mid-seral mountain big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass, big sagebrush/Sandberg bluegrass, and in the fair condition crested wheatgrass; increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July; cause an upward trend in the riparian habitat condition on Stinkingwater, Little Stinkingwater, and Clear Creeks; and maintain the current biscuitroot gathering sites in their current condition in the Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

A wildfire burned 788 acres in this allotment in August 1996. The burned pasture will be rested for 2 years and allowed to revegetate naturally.

5534

Mahon Creek

I

A wildfire burned approximately 800 acres in August 1996. Approximately 75 acres of bitterbrush will be seeded in the burned area. The burned area will be rested for 2 years to allow establishment of natural vegetation and the seeded bitterbrush.

5535

Miller Canyon

I

Parts of the boundary fences between this allotment and the Alder Creek and Mahon Creek Allotments were rebuilt by the permittees with BLM-supplied materials.

5536

Alder Creek

I

The AMP was revised to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, big game habitat, riparian or aquatic habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are to cause an upward trend in the mid-seral stage mountain big sagebrush/Idaho fescue/Thurber needlegrass range sites in all pastures, while maintaining late seral stage sites; to cause an upward trend in the fair and poor condition riparian habitat, and to maintain 85 percent of the current stands of bitterbrush in healthy condition. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

5538	Riverside	M	<p>The AMP was revised to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include Special Status species, recreation use, and range condition. The objectives are to cause an upward trend in the early and mid-seral stage Wyoming big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass range sites and to maintain the late seral stage sites and the Special Status species populations occurring in the allotment. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p>
5565	Upton Mountain	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the success of management in meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the stocking rate exceeds the forage production. Generally, other objectives have been met. The evaluation recommends modifying the grazing system to better meet resource objectives and rewriting the objectives to include the conflicts and concerns identified in the RMP. In August 1996, a wildfire burned approximately 1,650 acres in the Bartlett Mountain Pasture. A fire rehabilitation project seeded approximately 400 acres with native grasses and forbs and aerially seeded approximately 200 acres with big sagebrush. Straw bale check dams were constructed in ephemeral drainages to control erosion. A protection fence will be constructed and the area will be rested for at least 2 years to allow vegetation to become established.</p>
5572	Krueger FFR	C	<p>This allotment has been eliminated due to a land sale. There were 80 acres in this allotment. There was no grazing permit.</p>
5575	School House	M	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the success of management in meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that forage production is in balance with forage demand and management has generally met resource objectives. The evaluation recommends modifications to the grazing system and rewriting the objectives to include the conflicts and concerns identified in the RMP. The AMP was developed which combined management of this allotment with the Little Muddy Creek Allotment (#5505). The AMP incorporates the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addresses the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include big game forage allocations, water quality, Special Status species, and big game habitat. The objectives are to maintain the present late seral stage in the Schoolhouse Pasture, and to cause an upward trend in the Muddy Creek Pasture and Upper Mountain Pasture. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p>

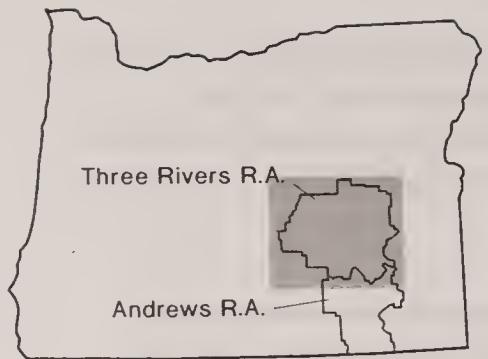
**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

5578	C & D FFR	C	Eight miles of the boundary fence between this allotment and the Forest Service were rebuilt. It was destroyed in a fire in 1995.
7001	East Warm Springs	I	Forty-nine wild horses were removed from this allotment in 1996. One-half mile of pasture boundary fence was constructed.
7002	West Warm Springs	I	During August 1996, a wildfire burned approximately 7,500 acres in this allotment. A rehabilitation project seeded approximately 2,900 acres with native grasses, forbs, and shrubs with a rangeland drill and aerially seeded approximately 200 acres with Wyoming big sagebrush. A protection fence was constructed to exclude the area from grazing for at least 2 years to allow the burned area to recover.
			One hundred wild horses were removed from this allotment in 1996. Ten waterholes were cleaned out during 1996.
7006	Rimrock Lake	I	A quarter mile of pipeline and a trough and 1-mile of fence were installed in this allotment to keep livestock away from the historic Gap Ranch buildings.
7010	Claw Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the success of management in meeting resource objectives. The evaluation found management has generally met resource objectives, but forage demand exceeds forage production. The objectives have been met under current management with nonuse. The evaluation recommends modifications to the grazing system to better meet resource objectives, rewriting the objectives to include the conflicts and concerns identified in the RMP, and a reduced stocking rate. The AMP was revised to incorporate these recommendation. The concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP include big game habitat, riparian and aquatic habitat, Special Status species, water quality, grazing patterns, and ACEC. The objectives are to maintain the upward trend in riparian habitat, and to cause an upward trend in areas of mid-seral stage and to maintain areas of late seral stage. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
			A land exchange reduced the number of acres in the allotment by approximately 1,500 acres. The grazing permit was reduced by 101 AUMs.

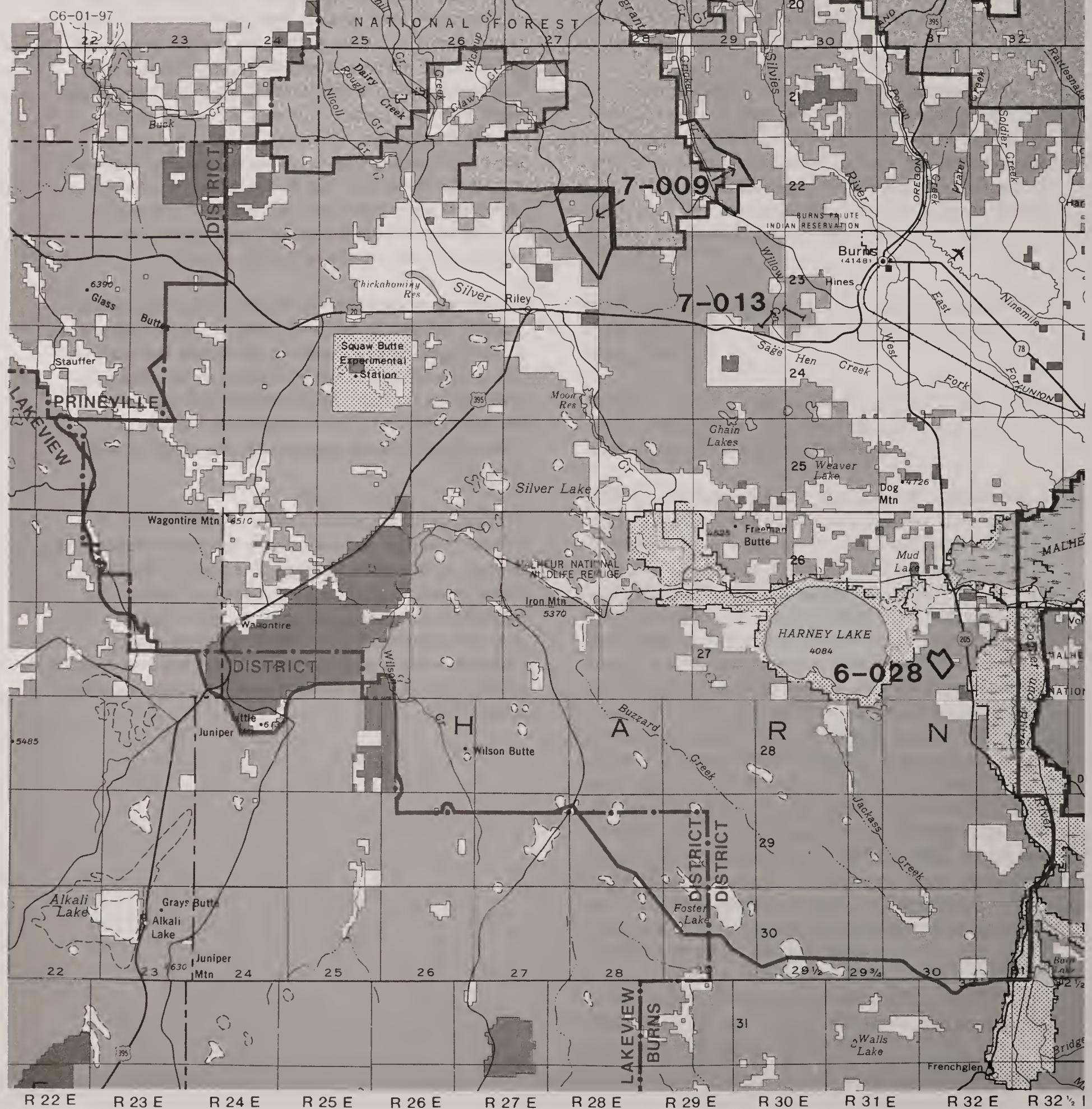
**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

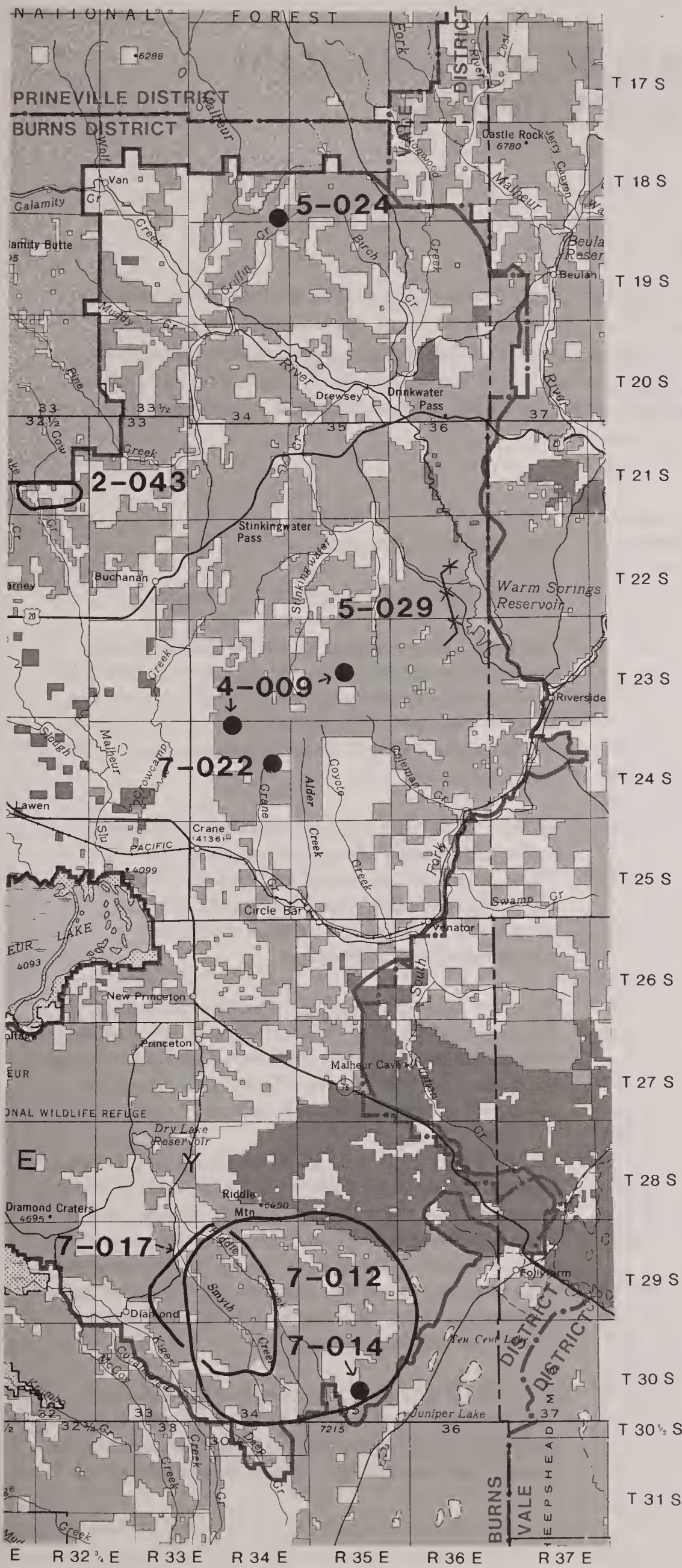
7011	Upper Valley	M	This allotment has been eliminated due to a land exchange. A 265-AUM grazing permit was canceled. In this exchange, the BLM acquired 640 acres which, combined with an additional 640 acres, forms the Silver Creek RNA extension.
7012	Packsaddle	I	The AMP was revised to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The concerns include big game forage allocations, riparian and aquatic habitat, erosion, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are to show an upward trend on 1.25 miles of stream in Wickiup Creek and on 0.6-mile of stream in Mineral Canyon, to maintain upland vegetation and maintain browse on 85 percent of the acreage in elk winter range which currently supports browse. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. The grazing permit was reduced by 66 AUMs due to a reduction of acreage available for grazing.
7031	Hay Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the success of management in meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that forage demand and forage production are in balance and management is meeting or moving toward meeting resource objectives. The evaluation recommends continuing the current management toward the existing objectives.
7043	Lone Pine	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the success of management in meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that forage production and forage demand are balanced, but management has met only one of the two objectives. The evaluation recommends modifications to the grazing system to better meet resource objectives and rewriting the objectives to include the conflicts and concerns identified in the RMP.

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BURNS DISTRICT





ANDREWS RANGELAND PROGRAM

SUMMARY UPDATE

Interested Publics

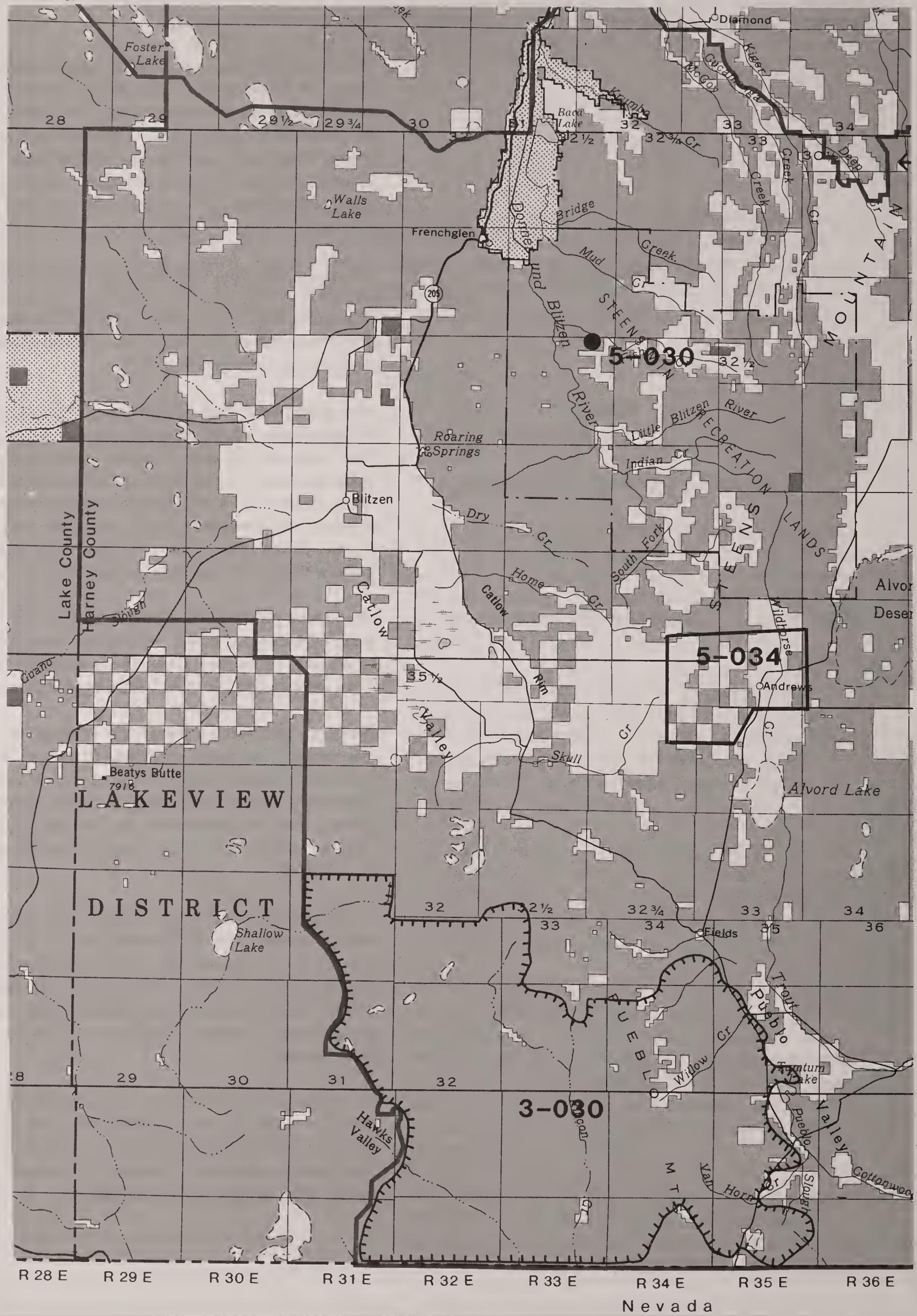
Following issuance of this Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) Update, there will be a 30-day comment period for the public to request interested public status. If you wish to be provided an opportunity to be involved in the decision making process for the management of livestock grazing on specific grazing allotments, contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Manager in writing by October 7, 1997. You must advise which specific allotment or allotment(s) you are interested in or submit written comments regarding activities on a specific allotment.

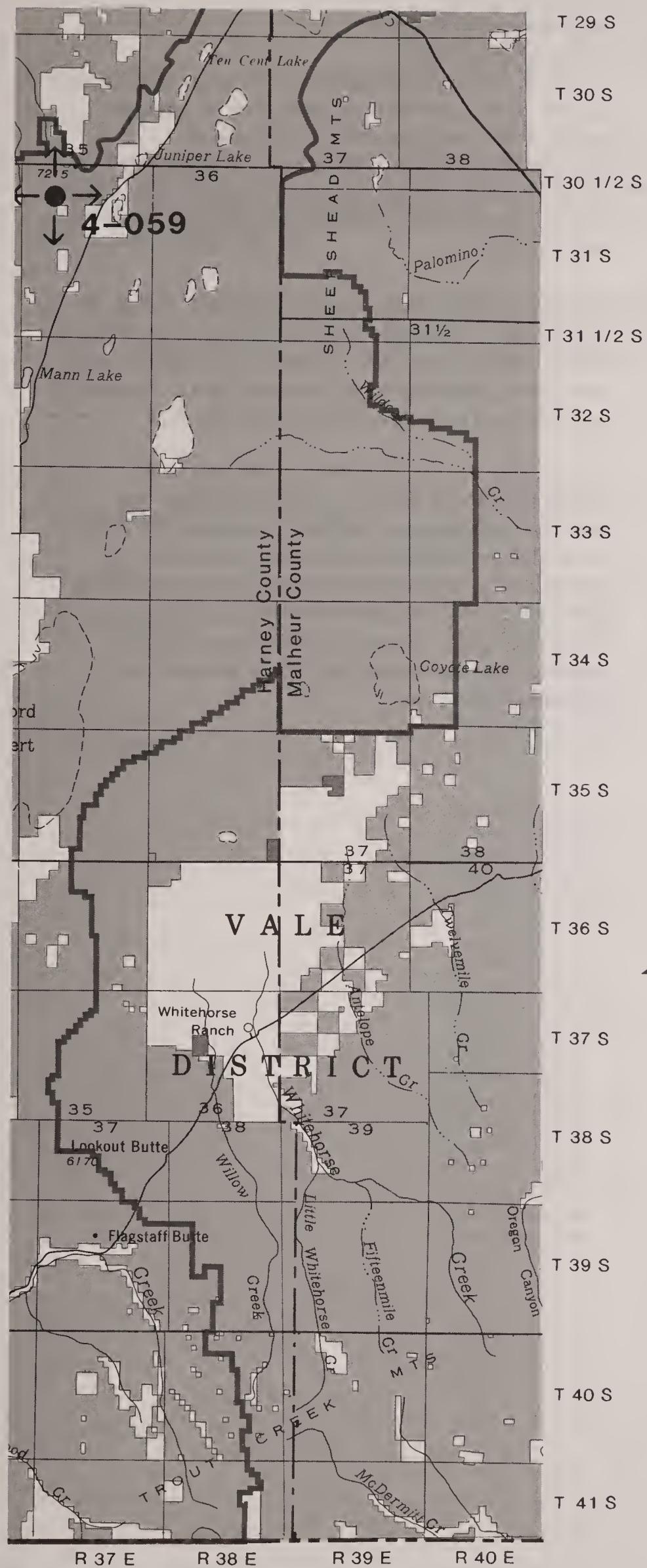
Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
6002	South Steens	I	<p>The Final Allotment Management Plan/Environmental Assessment (AMP/EA) was published June 27, 1996, and mailed to all individuals and groups who commented on the draft document. The AMP/EA included a Full Force and Effect decision to reconstruct a pasture fence destroyed earlier by fire.</p> <p>In 1997, BLM plans to implement proposed actions to accomplish resource objectives outlined in the AMP. These actions include prescribed burns on 8,000 acres of big sagebrush/juniper/grass communities, to create a mosaic of seral stages, and improve species and community structural diversity.</p> <p>The Final Summary Judgment of the Ninth U.S. District Court, issued May 1, 1997, directed the BLM to construct 10 miles of fence on public land west of the South Fork of the Donner und Blitzen River. The Blitzen Protection Fence will be constructed in the summer of 1997.</p> <p>On July 24-28, 1996, wildfire burned 4,451 acres of public land and 876 acres of private land in Road Canyon within the Skull Creek Pasture. A mixture of perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs was drill-seeded on approximately 650 acres. Two sediment catchment basins and four sediment traps were constructed for erosion control. One-third mile of protection fence was constructed to allow the seeded area to be rested from grazing.</p>
6003	Fish Creek-Big Indian	I	An allotment management evaluation is scheduled for FY97 to assess whether or not current management is meeting resource objectives. The evaluation will form the basis for a subsequent AMP. Resource concerns include

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

			range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, fishery, Wild and Scenic River, and wilderness values. The life estate allowing grazing on private land now in public ownership has expired. This will result in a 38 percent reduction in stocking level. The Upper Dry Creek Pasture fence has been rescheduled for completion along with maintenance of six springs within the Cold Springs Pasture.
6004	Steens Summit	I	Through cooperation with the private landowner, the amount of fencing required within the High Steens Wilderness Study Area (WSA) to remove livestock use from Steens Summit has been reduced to 1.75 miles. The fence will be constructed in 1997.
6011	Pollock	I	During the period from July 8 through July 22, 1996, wildfires burned 4,462 acres of public land, 249 acres of State land, and 258 acres of private land. A mixture of perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs was drill-seeded on approximately 715 acres. Twelve sediment traps and one sediment catchment basin were constructed for erosion control. Three miles of protection fence was constructed to allow the seeded area to be rested from grazing.
6020	Pueblo-Lone Mountain	I	<p>The Rincon pipeline was extended 4 miles and two watering sites were added. Five fences, totaling 19.6 miles, were constructed. These improvements will allow implementation of the AMP, approved in 1996.</p> <p>Water trough holding capacity was increased at two existing well sites when small troughs were replaced with 30-foot bottomless troughs. Holding capacity at each site was increased from approximately 1,000 gallons to 10,000 gallons. Troughs were moved outside the Basque Hills WSA by adding 200 yards of pipeline from the existing Gusher Well.</p> <p>The Basque Hills Well was completed May 1997. Final depth of the well was 773 feet and production is 30-40 gallons of water per minute. A 30-foot bottomless trough was placed at the well site. This project was designed to provide water for livestock and wildlife in the area and improve overall livestock distribution within the Basque Hills Pasture.</p> <p>All improvements constructed within the allotment will allow for implementation of the Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP and achievement of the objectives of improving riparian and meadow areas and rest of perennial grasses on upland areas during the growing season.</p>

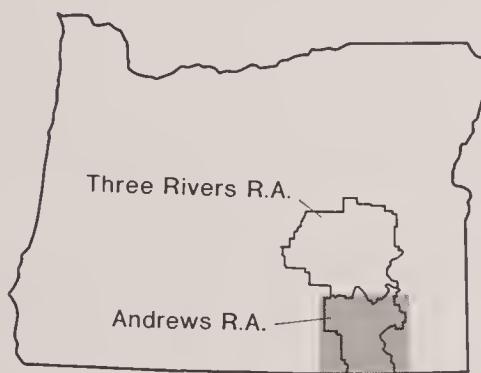
C6-01-97





LEGEND

- District Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- BLM Lands
- National Wildlife Refuge
- State Lands
- Private Lands
- 4-059** Environmental Assessment Number
- General Location of Other Projects
- Allotment Management Plan Area



BURNS DISTRICT

MAP 1

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

BURNS DISTRICT**Andrews Resource Area**

1997



C6-1-97

**Allotment
Number****Allotment Name****Category*****Implementation Progress**

6027,	Carlson Creek, Kueney	I	On July 2, 1996, wildfire burned 1,279 acres of public land and 976 acres of private land. A mixture of perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs was drill-seeded on approximately 300 acres. Three miles of protection fence was constructed to allow the seeded area to be rested from grazing. Two miles of existing fence damaged by the fire were repaired.
6127,	Fenced Federal Range,	C	
6036	Penland (unallotted)	C	

6028

Miner's Field

I

A grazing permit was canceled, covering 805 AUMs, in consequence of continued trespass violations over a long period of time. The decision to cancel the permit is under appeal to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The permit cannot be used pending a hearing before the ALJ.

6040

Stonehouse Allotment

I

A new allotment was formed by the removal of the Stonehouse Pasture from the Alvord Allotment. An allotment management evaluation is scheduled for FY97. The evaluation will assess whether or not current management is meeting resource objectives and results of the evaluation will form the basis for an Allotment Management Plan. Resource concerns are riparian condition, rangeland condition, fishery, wildlife habitat, and wilderness values.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTER

The following are Environmental Assessments (EAs) which were scheduled but were not completed and new EAs recently initiated. The EAs for these projects are now completed or expected to be completed in FY97. A notice is published in the Burns Times-Herald when each new EA is available for review by the public and the date when the comment period ends.

If you would like to be involved in the planning process for any particular project or would simply like to receive a copy of an EA for review, note the EA register number and contact the District Environmental Coordinator Gordon Bentley, or the project's primary contact listed below. This should be done as early as possible to allow for full consideration of your input.

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/Action
EA OR-020*-90-048	Harney County Land Exchange	<p>The proposed action is to exchange five solid waste disposal sites on 200 acres of public land currently leased to Harney County for 200 acres of County-owned land.</p> <p>The purpose and need of the proposed action is to minimize the United States' potential liability under various hazardous and solid waste statutes; eliminate BLM's administration of the current leases; facilitate continued rural solid waste disposal by providing Harney County with long-term ownership of the disposal sites; and, dispose of isolated and unmanageable tracts of County-owned and BLM-administered land.</p>	Various locations throughout Harney County.	None.	EA and public comment period ended in 1990. Decision is expected late in FY97.

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/Action
EA OR-025*-92-043	Cow Creek Forest Health Project	<p>The proposed action is to treat 225 acres in the Rattlesnake Forest Management area by the selective harvest of approximately 400 mbf of timber, precommercial thinning of 55 acres, underburning 189 acres, removal of invading ponderosa pine from 13 acres of aspen, and fencing the aspen stands to enhance reproduction.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to improve forest health, to perpetuate and manage existing large diameter ponderosa pine trees, to salvage dead and dying trees, to improve stand vigor, lower risk of wildfire, and to return timber stands to their historic range of variability. This project was originally proposed in 1993, but was delayed. It is being reinitiated using the most current inventory data.</p>	T. 21 S., R. 32 E., Secs. 27,28,29, and 33.	Water quality.	Original EA completed Summer 1993; public comment period closed 08/25/93; EA rewritten Spring 1997; public comment period ended Spring 1997; Decision Record scheduled for Fall/Winter 1997.

* 020 = Burns District, 025 = Three Rivers Resource Area, 026 = Andrews Resource Area

EA OR-026*-93-030	Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP	<p>The proposed action is to develop an AMP for the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to develop an allotment management strategy which would meet allotment-specific objectives for vegetative resources within the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment. This would include a deferred grazing system which would allow for periodic rest from grazing and result in improved conditions of vegetation.</p>	Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment.	<p>Special Status species; water quality; wetlands/riparian zones; Pueblo Mountain (2-81) WSA, Rincon (2-82) WSA, Basque Hills (2-84) WSA, and Hawk Mountain (1-146A) WSA; cultural resources.</p>	<p>In accordance with the signed Decision Record, 23 miles of fence and 4.5 miles of pipeline will be constructed, and a 600-foot well drilled to facilitate implementation of a major portion of the grazing system.</p>
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EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/Action
EA OR-025-94-009	Miller Canyon and Mountain Allotments Juniper Control Primary Contact: Fred Taylor	The proposed action is to cut all juniper trees less than 24 inches in diameter, measured 1-foot above ground, in 30 units with a combined area of approximately 1,500 acres. The purpose of the action is to reduce juniper competition with grasses, forbs, shrubs, and, in some areas, aspen trees. Trees will be cut and left in place to provide beneficial micro-site characteristics for seedling establishment.	Scattered sites in the Miller Canyon (No. 5535), Mahon Creek (5534), and Mountain (No. 5532) Allotments in the Stinkingwater Mountains.	None.	EA has been completed and work is planned for Summer of 1997.
EA OR-025-94-059 Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan	Stonehouse AMP; July 1995 the Stonehouse Pasture was removed from the Alvord Allotment and made a separate allotment	The proposed action is to implement a three-pasture rest/rotation grazing system on the Stonehouse Allotment. This will require 4.5 miles of 3-strand barbed wire fence (bottom strand smooth) and approximately 1,000 acres of prescribed burning. 1.5 miles of nonfunctional fence will be removed within the Lower Stonehouse WSA. The purpose of this action is to improve riparian and upland range condition and plant diversity on sagebrush and juniper dominated sites.	T. 30 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 32 (fence). T. 31 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 36 (-mile fence). T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 1, 7, 11, 12, 13, and 18 (burn), approximately 400 acres are within the Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSA.	Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSA; Riddle Creek and headwaters of Deep Creek.	Allotment evaluation is planned for FY97; EA will be completed subsequently.
EA OR-025-95-024 Primary Contact: Scott Moore	Malheur River/ Bluebucket Creek Protection Project	The proposed action is to implement resource protection for special management areas. The purpose of this action is to reduce livestock grazing impacts on special management areas.	T. 18 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 33 and 34, Bluebucket Creek and Middle Fork of the Malheur River.	Malheur River Bluebucket Creek (2-14) WSA and recommended Wild and Scenic River.	EA planned for completion in FY98.

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/Action
EA OR-025-95-029	Texaco Basin Reservoir and WSR Fences	<p>The proposed action is to construct 6 miles of fence along the west side of the Warm Springs Road in the Texaco Basin Allotment.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to keep livestock away from Warm Springs Reservoir during the recreation season and allow better utilization of the crested wheatgrass seeding in the west half of the Reservoir Pasture.</p>	T. 22 and 23 S., R. 36 E., Secs. 22, 26, 27, 28, 35 and 2, 11.	Recreation and riparian habitat.	EA planned for completion in FY97.
Primary Contact: Jim King					
EA OR-026-95-030	Little Fish Creek Fence	<p>The proposed action is to construct 1.3 miles of fence.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to provide management on the Grove Creek and Little Fish Creek riparian areas which would include control on timing of grazing, utilization levels, and provide periodic rest. Also to improve ecological condition of these creeks.</p>	T. 33 S., R. 32 E., Secs. 14 and 24.	Riparian and wildlife habitat; Blitzen (2-86E) and Little Blitzen Gorges (2-86F) WSAs.	The project will be incorporated into the Fish Creek/Big Indian AMP.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-95-034	Davis/Wild-horse Land Exchange	<p>The proposed action is to exchange approximately 2,452 acres of public land for 2,160 acres of private land around Mickey and Tule Springs and Stonehouse and Carlson Creeks.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to consolidate public and private lands into more manageable units and acquire important wildlife, riparian, and recreation values and important public access.</p>	Stonehouse and Carlson Creeks; Mickey and Tule Springs; east slopes of Steens Mountain and Alvord Desert.	Riparian, recreation.	An appraisal is being prepared; an EA will be prepared if both parties to the exchange can agree on appraised values; EA scheduled for completion in FY97.
Primary Contact: Barbara Kehrberg					

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/Action
EA OR-025-96-014	Poison Creek Reservoir	The proposed action is to construct a reservoir to hold approximately 140 acre-feet of water.	T. 18 S., R. 32 E., Sec. 17.	None.	EA is being written with expected completion by 9-30-97.
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor		The purpose of this action is to create a fishery in the area to provide fishing opportunities to the public.			
EA OR-026-96-025	Silvies River Cooperative Management Area MOU	The proposed action is to enter into a cooperative effort with the Division of State Lands, ODFW, and a private landowner to limit vehicle travel within 11,000 acres of public and 5,800 acres of private land, and allow only nonmotorized access during the buck deer and bull elk rifle hunts.	Lone Pine/Silvies River.	None.	This proposed action has been withdrawn by ODFW.
Primary Contact: Skip Renschler		The purpose is to improve the quality of hunting experience by providing solitude for hunters and improve the buck and bull ratios in the area.			
EA OR-025-96-028	Zeolite Mine	The proposed action is to develop a mine in a clay mineral deposit within the Eagle's Nest seeding by blasting, crushing, and hauling the rock.	T. 27 S., R. 30 E., Secs. 10 SE, 11 SW, 15 NE, and 14 NW.	None.	EA is planned to be completed in FY97.
Primary Contact: Terri Geisler		The purpose is to mine zeolite minerals.			
EA OR-025-97-009	Pine Springs Resource Protection	The proposed action is to allow a temporary increase in grazing from April 1 to May 31, 1997.	T. 21 and 22 S., R. 29 E.; T. 22 and 23 S., R. 27 and 28 E., Second Flat, Badger Springs, and Horton Mill Allotments.	None.	EA was completed on 02-07-97.
Primary Contact: Theresa Romasko		The purpose is to reduce grass competition with pine and browse seedlings, and reduce fire hazard to seedlings.			

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/Action
EA OR-025-97-012	Riddle Creek Ecosystem Restoration Project Primary Contact: Bill Anderson	The proposed action is to conduct prescribed burns on approximately 10,000 acres over a 5 to 10-year period in mountain big sagebrush sites that have been invaded by juniper. The purpose of this action is to maintain ecological function of these sites.	T. 29 and 30 S., R. 34 and 35 E., Riddle Mountain, Smyth Creek, Happy Valley, and Burnt Flat Allotments.	None.	EA planned for completion in Winter 1998.
EA OR-025-97-013	Gouldin Pipeline Primary Contact: Bill Anderson	The proposed action is to install a pipeline and trough. The purpose of this action is to improve livestock distribution through additional water.	T. 23 and 24 S., R. 30 E., Secs. 31 and 6.	None.	EA planned for completion in Fall 1997.
EA OR-025-97-014	Stone Gap Fence Primary Contact: Bill Anderson	The proposed action is to conduct prescribed burns on approximately 10,000 acres over a 5 to 10-year period in mountain big sagebrush sites that have been invaded by juniper. The purpose of this action is to maintain ecological function of these sites.	T. 30 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 34.	Stonehouse (2-23L) WSA.	EA planned for completion in Summer 1997.
EA OR-025-97-017	Primary Contact: Jim King	Diamond Area Fences The proposed action is to install 5 miles of fence. The purpose of this action is to protect 6 miles of riparian habitat and will facilitate management of livestock grazing.	T. 29 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 8, 9, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33; T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 19.	Kiger Wild Horse ACEC.	EA planned for completion in Fall 1997.
EA OR-025-97-022	Tin Can Fire Seeding Primary Contact: Fred Taylor	The proposed action is to seed 100 acres with bitterbrush and native bluebunch wheatgrass. The purpose of this action is to establish native vegetation on a juniper cutting area subsequently burned.	T. 24 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 14.	None.	EA planned for completion in Summer 1997.

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